(d) whether it is also a fact that salaries of these employees are not being paid regularly; and

(e) whether they are being deprived of fifth Central Pay Commission's recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) The question of grant of permanent status to some of the Mage Extra-mural Projects set up by ICMR including NNMB, Nagpur and regularisation of employees working under them has been receiving attention of the Government. To examine the issue a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Harcharan Singh was set up by the ICMR. The recommendations made by the Committee were considered by the Scientific Advisory Board of the Council and consequently to the decision by the SAB, these were further examined by Dr. Ruderappa Sub-Committee. A decision on the recommendations of the Dr. Ruderappa Sub-Committee will be taken by the Government on receipt of views of the Governing Body.

(d) No.

(e) The proposal received from ICMR for granting revised pay scales/consolidated salary to the employees of extramural projects of MCMR is receiving the attention of the Government.

Teaching of Leprosy in Medical Colleges

519. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adequate attention is not being paid in madical colleges in India for teaching leprosy as a result of which in many cases doctors fail to detect the early signs of this disease in many cases;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to focus special attention on this disease in medical education in the country; and

(c) the steps taken to generate sufficient awareness in the country about leprosy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) It is not true that adequate attention is not paid in medical colleges towards teaching leprosy to M.B.B.S. students.

In the syllabus for Dermatology and Sexaully Transmitted Disease as provided in the Graduate Medical Education Regulation, 1997, Leprology is included and the skills that students should acquire, inter-alia, includes examination and treatment of leprosy patients.

(c) Raising the level of awareness in the Public about leprosy is one of the components of the National Leprosy Eradication Programme. The NLEP staff in the districts conduct health education activities as a part of their regular work for the patients, their families and the community. General health care staff are also involved in creating and raising the level of awareness about leprosy. The State Government/UTs have also conducted campaigns to create mass awareness concerning leprosy by actively involving all visual and print media, folk music, dance troops, meetings, rallies, printed materials, hoardings, handbills, etc.

Efforts to Make an AIDS Vaccine

520. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is forgoing ahead in its afforts to make an AIDS vaccine;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the endeavours made to stop further spread of the disease in the country?

THE MININSTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFAFRE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) Efforts to develop a vaccine relevant to Indian requirements have been initiated. The HIV-I and II virus characterisation in India has been done and sub type mapping has also been carried out. It has been shown that sub type C of HIV-I is pre-dominantly found in India. Such subtyping is a pre-reguisite for vaccine development.

(c) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main strategy consist of:

* Strengthening Promgramme Management capabilities at Central and state levels.
* Creation of awareness among high risk behaviour groups and general public about HIV/AIDS.
* Control of Sexually Transmitted Disease & Condom Promotion.
* Promoting blood safety and rational use of blood and encouraging voluntary blood donation.
* Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnosis;
* Extending training in clinical management of HIV/AIDS, and
* Providing drugs for management of opportunistic infections.

Permission for M.D.S. Courses in Dental Colleges

521. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of Dental colleges which were accorded Government's permission in 1998 to start MDS courses alongwith the specialities, and dates;

(b) the details of Dental colleges who actually started the MDS course in 1998, alongwith specialities and dates; and

(c) the details of Dental colleges whose applications are pendjng as on date for starting MDS seats, alongwith the latest status and reasons for pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) A statement is annexed at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 186, Annexure No. 9]

उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय जिलों में बच्चों को पल्स पोलियो ड्राप्स उपलब्ध कराना

522. श्रीमती मालती शर्मा: क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में पल्स पोलियो की दवाई उपलब्ध नहीं कराई गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश के पौड़ी, टिहरी और चमोली जिलों के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बच्चों को पल्स पोलियो ड्राप्स दिलाने की व्यवस्था करेगी?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलित एंजिलमलाई): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) (क) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी जिलों के बच्चों को नैमी पोलियो रोग प्रतिरक्षण तथा प्लस पोलियो रोग प्रतिरक्षण उपलब्ध कराया जा रहा है। हाल ही में 6 दिसम्बर, 1998 और 17 जनवरी, 1999 को पल्स पोलियो रोगप्रतिरक्षण अभियान इन जिलों में शेष देश की तरह चलाए गए।

Transfer Policy for Ayurvedic Doctor in Delhi

523. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 1454, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th December, 1998 and state: